

Message Text

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17-12

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 CCO-00

SSO-00 DRC-01 AF-10 EUR-25 /186 W

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R 220600Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4968

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MARR, IS, EG, XF

SUBJ: LOCAL ARAB REACTION TO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

1. LOCAL ARABIC DAILY EL QUDS CARRIED EDITORIALS GENERALLY FAVORABLE TO EGYPT-ISRAEL DIS-ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT JAN 19, 20 AND 21. PAPER TERMS AGREEMENT A VICTORY FOR PEACE-LOVERS AND BARRIER TO RENEWAL OF WARS REPEATEDLY WITNESSED IN REGION. URGING CONTINUED ARAB UNITY, IT SUPPORTS SADAT'S DECISION TO GO AHEAD ALONE TO DO WHAT HE THOUGHT CORRECT, ON BASIS OF AUTHORITY GIVEN HIM BY ALGIERS SUMMIT, AND TO REPORT DETAILS TO OTHER ARAB STATES AFTERWARDS. AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT MEET THE FATE OF THE 1949 CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS BUT SHOULD BE ONLY PRELIMINARY TO OVERALL SETTLEMENT, NOT ONLY WITH EGYPT BUT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND "OTHER ARAB PARTIES PRIMARILY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PALESTINE PEOPLE", THE PAPER EDITORIALIZES, EXPRESSING

CAUTIOUS HOPE THAT THIS TIME MATTERS WILL BE DIFFERENT,
ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF SADAT'S APPARENT OPTIMISM AND ACTIVE
US ROLE.

2. LIMITED PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH LOCAL ARABS (SNOW, HIGH
WINDS AND TORRENTIAL RAINS HAMPERING OUR SOUNDING EFFORTS)
INDICATE GENERALLY POSITIVE REACTION WITH SOME SENTIMENT,
HOWEVER, THAT THIS MEANS LITTLE TO PALESTINIANS UNLESS IT
IN FACT PROVES TO BE FIRST STEP IN CONTINUING PROCESS.
EXTREMIST ARABIC DAILY EL SHAAB VIEWS AGREEMENT AS US-ISRAELI
PLOT TO GAIN UNDEFINED ADVANTAGE OVER ARABS.
DAY

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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